

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

- B<sup>2</sup>
1. (currently amended) Device for the DC-decoupled connection of a telephone line-(5) to a digital signal processing device-(6) at the subscriber end of the telephone line, comprising a first circuit-(1), which is connected to the telephone line-(5);  
a second circuit-(2), which is connected to the digital signal processing device-(6);  
the first circuit-(1) exhibiting a hybrid circuit-(7) for separating the signals of the telephone line in a first signal path which extends from the telephone line-(5) to the digital signal processing device-(6), and into a second signal path which extends from the digital signal processing device-(6) to the telephone line-(5);  
and comprising a single transformer-(3) which exhibits a first and a second winding;  
the first winding being connected to the first circuit-(1) and the second winding being connected to the second circuit;  
the first and second winding being DC-coupled from one another;  
the first and second circuits-(1, 2) being designed in such a manner that transmitting the signals of the first and second signal paths can be transmitted transmitting bi-directionally by a time-division multiplex method multiplex method or a frequency-division multiplex method decoupled via the transformer-(3) for both directions of transmission.
  2. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first circuit-(1) in the first signal path exhibits an analog/digital converter-(19) which follows the hybrid circuit-(7), and the first circuit-(1) in the second signal path exhibits a digital/analog converter-(20) which precedes the hybrid circuit.
  3. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the output of the analog/digital. converter-(19) and the input of the digital/analog converter-(20)

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are connected to a first digital signal multiplexer~~(17)~~ which, in turn, is connected to the first winding of the transformer~~(3)~~.

4. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the signal multiplexer~~(17)~~ is operated in such a manner that the first and the second signal path are alternately connected to the transformer~~(3)~~.

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5. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 4, characterized in that the second circuit~~(2)~~ exhibits a second digital signal multiplexer~~(18)~~ which is connected to the second winding of the transformer~~(3)~~.

6. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the second circuit~~(2)~~ exhibits an oscillator circuit~~(14)~~ which provides the clock for the second digital signal multiplexer~~(18)~~.

7. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 6, characterized in that the first digital signal multiplexer~~(17)~~ exhibits a clock recovery circuit which recovers the clock of the oscillator circuit~~(14, 15)~~ and provides it to the first circuit~~(1)~~.

8. (Cancelled)

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